I.

Mr. Henry Baker *F. R. S. to* Martin Folkes *Eſq*; Preſident *of the* Royal Society, *concerning the* Earthquake *felt at* London Feb. 8, 1749-50.

Read Feb. 8, 1749-50.

AS I was walking along *Chancery-lane* To-day, towards *Holbourn*, about 40 Minutes paſt 12 o' Clock, People came out of ſeveral Houſes to their Doors in great Surprize, complaining of the ſhaking of their Houſes, and imputing it to the Fall of ſome great Timber, or other heavy Body, which they ſuppos'd at ſome little Diſtance from them, and which they came out to inquire after.

When I was got into *Holbourn*, I found the People under the ſame Conſternation, and expreſſing themſelves nearly in the ſame manner.

Going to *Gray's-Inn*, many People were got together in the great Square, talking about the Shock they had felt; and in particular a Lamp-lighter was giving an Account, that, being on his Ladder, pouring Oil into a Lamp, he was in Danger of falling off, by ſomebody's ſhaking the Ladder, as he at firſt imagined.

I then went to a Gentleman's Chambers under *Gray's Inn* Library, where I was told the Shaking had been ſo much, that they thought a Clock would have been thrown down; and imagin'd at the time, ſome large Box or Heap of Books had been tumbled down over Head.

The People in all the Streets, as I returned home, were talking of this Matter; and ſome of the Women complaining that the Motion had made them ſick.

My own Family, in *Catherine-ſtreet* in the *Strand*, had been no leſs ſurpriſed, and had ſent to the Neighbours to inquire if ſome heavy thing had fallen down, to occaſion the Shaking of the Houſe, which Mrs. *Baker* deſcribed as very great: She ſat in the Dining-Room, which is to the Street, and her Belief at the Inſtant was, that the Servant was fallen all along in the backward Room of the next Story higher, thereby ſhaking the Houſe, and making a conſiderable Noiſe.

My Son felt the ſame Shock at the *Tower*; where alſo a Gentleman, who was ſitting at a Table to write, in his Houſe in the Mint, was thrown out of his Chair with a conſiderable Force towards the Table; and where every Body was much ſhock'd with the Apprehenſion of ſome Exploſion of Gunpowder.

What therefore ſo many People, in different Streets, at great Diſtances from each other, have been ſurpriſed at, cannot be only Fancy, but muſt be owing to ſome real Cauſe; and if no Powder-Mill, or Magazine of Powder has been blown up, it muſt have been an Earthquake, or ſome Tremor of the Earth itſelf.

I was pretty curious to inquire of People in different Places, to judge the better from their ſeveral Reports; and I found them agree, almoſt in general, in the firſt Suppoſition of ſome weighty Body falling; moſt ſaid with a Noiſe, but ſome ſeemed uncertain as to that. I endeavour'd likewiſe to learn

learn its Courſe, by comparing the Accounts of People in different Situations: It ſeems to have lain Eaſt and Weſt, and to have paſſed from the Weſt Eaſtward. I felt nothing of it myſelf as I walked the Street, nor do I find that many who were walking did.

I hope you will pleaſe to excuſe this haſty Account, and permit me to aſſure you that I am, with all poſſible Reſpect,

SIR,

Your moſt obedient

humble Servant,

H. Baker.

Catherine-ſtreet, Feb. 8. 4h *p.m.* 1749-50.

II.

An Account of the Shock of an Earthquake, *felt* Feb. 8. 1749-50: *By* Gowin Knight *M. B. & F. R. S.*

Read Feb. 8. 1749-50. TO-DAY, betwixt 12 and 1 o'Clock, the Houſe in which I live in *Lincoln's-Inn Fields* was ſhook violently for a Moment. The Room where I was ſhook very much, but nothing was thrown down. In another Room the Grate was ſeen to move, and the Fire-ſhovel was thrown down. A Maid-Servant that was above-ſtairs was much frighten'd with the Shock and Noiſe: She ſaid, ſhe heard a Sound like Thunder, which